

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FOR NEA/RA - STEPHEN E PALMER, JR
AID- WILLIAM RICHTER

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: NA
SUBJECT: CENTO ECONOMIC: ALTERNATIVES TO MICROWAVE PROJECT

REF: STATE 014334

SECRETARIAT INFORMS:

1. DSG(E) MARTIN CONFIRMED TO PAKISTANI DELEGATE AT COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC WORKS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING IN OCTOBER 1977, THAT CENTO CIVIL MICROWAVE PROJECT IN PAKISTAN IS DEAD. SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED BY PAKISTANIS AT ESG(E) MEETING BUT THEY CAN BE EXPECTED TO RAISE IT AT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING IF US DELEGATES SAY NOTHING ABOUT AN ALTERNATIVE PROJECT. WE SUGGEST US DELEGATE INITIATE DISCUSSION OF AN ALTERNATIVE PROJECT AT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE BUT OUTSIDE FORMAL SESSIONS. PROJECT MIGHT THEN BE NOTED IN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE REPORT.

2. PAKISTANIS ARE AWARE OF COMPLEXITIES AND DIFFICULTIES
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PRESENTED BY US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT AND EXPECT US SIDE TO HELP OVERCOME THESE OBSTACLES SO THAT \$500,000 OFFER MADE AT 1977 ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING CAN BE REALIZED.

3. MR PALMER MIGHT PROPOSE FOR EXAMPLE FOLLOW-UP PROJECT TO CENTO WATERSHED MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE WHICH TOOK

PLACE IN 1977 IN PESHAWAR.

4. PROJECT TO FOLLOW UP WATERSHED MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE HAS BEEN WORKED UP BY CENTO SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISOR CLYDE ADAMS. IT WOULD DEAL WITH PROBLEM OF BALANCING LONG-TERM REGIONAL NEEDS TO CONSERVE SOIL AND WATER IN WATERSHEDS AGAINST PRESSURE ON FARMERS IN UPPER REACHES OF WATERSHEDS TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SHORT TERM EXPLOITATION OF LAND. ADAMS SUGGESTS CENTO UNDERTAKE 3-YEAR MODEL INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT COMBINING \$500,000 OF CENTO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, LOCAL SELF-HELP, GOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND LOCAL FINANCING POSSIBLY IN MANGLA WATERSHED BECAUSE PROBLEM MOST APPARENT THERE. PROJECT WOULD BE CAREFULLY DOCUMENTED AND RESULTS COMMUNICATED TO REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATIONAL PROJECTS WITH SAME GOALS. IRANIAN AND TURKISH EXPERTS IN FIELD WOULD VISIT PROJECT AFTER FIRST AND SECOND YEARS AND PARTICIPATE IN EVALUATION OF PROJECT AFTER ITS COMPLETION. FIRST STEP, IF GOP AGREED, WOULD BE FOR AID/W TO SEND EXPERT TO PAKISTAN TO PREPARE DETAILED PROJECT PROPOSAL WHICH WILL MEET CRITERIA OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT FOR REGIONAL PROJECTS. ADAMS COULD ASSIST.

5. DEPARTMENT AND AID/W ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE ITS PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON ABOVE SUGGESTION AS WELL AS FEASIBILITY OF PROJECT PROPOSAL.
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Message Attributes

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